



MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

March 26, 2002

INS SEEKS TO REASSURE COMMUNITY IN WAKE OF FALSE ENFORCEMENT RUMORS

LOS ANGELES, Calif. ? The Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) will hold a media availability this afternoon to address false rumors that the agency's officers are targeting bus stations and street corners throughout Los Angeles and Orange counties. The rumors, which are completely without basis, are being widely reported in the Spanish language media, prompting a flood of calls to local police departments and Congressional offices.

"We want to reassure the public that our enforcement focus continues to be organized migrant smuggling, criminal aliens, and national security related matters," said Francisco Arcaute, spokesman for the Los Angeles INS district office. "Unfortunately, the people who are spreading these rumors are generating unnecessary fear and anxiety in the immigrant community."

DATE: March 26, 2002

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION: Room 6676
300 North Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles**

For more information on this afternoon's availability, contact Francisco Arcaute at (213) 830-4938 or the INS Western Regional Media Services Office at (949) 360-3096.

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